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Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-342  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Oiwa et al.

International Application No.: PCT/JP2003/013696

Group Art Unit: N/A

International Filing Date: October 27, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
RECORDING AND REPRODUCING  
INFORMATION AND COMPUTER  
PROGRAM

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. A copy of each reference is enclosed. These references were cited in the background section of the present specification and/or a corresponding International Search Report, a copy of which is enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: June 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned <b>500401</b>
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Junji Oiwa
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SONYJP 3.3-342

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	US-5,731,923-A1	03-24-1998	Sakuma	
	AB	US-2002/0003753-A1	01-10-2002	Sawabe et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	BA	JP-6-251562-A	09-09-1994	Victor Company of Japan, Ltd.		***
	BB	JP-6-266507-A	09-22-1994	Victor Company of Japan, Ltd.		***
	BC	JP-9-198845-A	07-31-1997	Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.		***
	BD	JP-9-102185-A	04-15-1997	Nippon Columbia Co., Ltd.		1A
	BE	JP-2002-25231-A	01-25-2002	Pioneer Electronic Corp.		2A
	BF	JP-2002-157824-A	05-31-2002	Toshiba Corp		***

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \*\*CITE NO.: Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an double asterisk (\*\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

\*\*\*With English Abstract Only

1A – US Patent 5,731,923 is an English counterpart

2A – US Patent Application 2002/0003753 is an English counterpart

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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